



# Medford Leas *Life*

**VOL. XXXVI, No.5**

**MAY 2008**

## **BILL STARCHER, CFO**

by Elsie Behmer



**William L. Starcher** is our new Chief Financial Officer. He joined us from Peninsula United Methodist Homes (PUMH), where he was part of an executive team that included CEO **Dennis Koza**.

It's all about balance for Bill and not just in the literal accounting sense of credits and debits. "Balance affects everything," he said. "It's about the proper balance between non-profit and for-profit; between profit margin and mission; between benefit and bottom line. When an organization adopts a 'bean counter' mindset focusing only on cost reduction, it can become very profitable indeed. At the same time those organizations can be very unpleasant places to work for or with or to live in, for that matter."

"Of course, too much benefit without regard to cost and an organization can be out of business!"

From a management perspective, Medford Leas is four businesses under one umbrella. "We are not only a medical provider, but a landlord, a restaurant, and a landscape and building maintenance operator. All contribute to the exceptional quality of life at Medford Leas and all must be efficiently and caringly run."

Bill is an active participant in Medford Leas' on-going strategic planning process. "We are looking

at what people will need and will want in CCRC housing and services in the next five, 10 and 15 years," Bill said.

"Sometimes it's difficult to determine what is a fad and what is a genuine trend. We are a consumer society and consumers want choice, choice, choice. Again, we must balance the needs of our current residents against the somewhat unknown wants of future residents. For example, we need to provide up-to-date technology infrastructure to meet the requirements of new and potential residents without burdening current residents with the cost of more technology than they will use."

Bill regards the challenges that Medford Leas offers him as "the opportunities I was looking for at this time in my career. I have 13 years of experience in both for-profit and non-profit organizations and CCRC accounting. Frankly, I prefer non-profits because they are not 100% bottom-line driven."

Bill's professional experience is enhanced because of the similarities between Medford Leas and PUMH, where he was Executive Vice President/CFO. Although these two organizations are structured somewhat differently, both have a variety of types of buildings some built in the 1960s; others in the 1990s. In both cases issues of obsolescence, expansion, renovation, and future resident expectations are key elements of the strategic planning process.

He welcomed the chance to work again with Dennis, whom Bill regards as a strong team leader and a visionary in the CCRC field. He has also welcomed our open environment. Because the administrative offices are in the

main building, Bill gets to see and talk to residents every day. "Everyone is friendly. Everyone has a smile and a 'hello,'" he said.

But Bill is not all numbers, balance sheets, and financial reports. His hobby is acting in community theater. He met his wife when they co-starred in a production at the Chapel Street Theater in Newark, DE. His favorite part was that of a classic villain in *Pure as the Driven Snow*, although he was somewhat unnerved when his fake mustache kept falling off. In his most challenging role, he played an Englishman, which required him to learn the accent. "I spent plenty of time listening to the BBC during that production," he recalled.

It takes a little more than an hour for Bill to commute between his home in Delaware and Medford. His family is staying in Delaware, at least for the time being, to avoid disrupting his 10-year-old son's life.

The bottom line: "Residents should be confident in Medford Leas and our future. We are on strong financial footing. The right people are in place to lead now and to plan for the future."

## NEW MLRA COUNCIL MEMBERS

The new MLRA Council members are **Susan Dowling**, Bridlington; **James McConville**, Lumberton; **Joan McKeon**, Bridlington; **Dan Seeger**, Lumberton; **Dave Taylor**, Bridlington; and **Fran Webb**, Courts. At the April 21 MLRA business meeting, they were elected to two-year terms beginning July 1. Continuing to serve on the Council for another year are **Gordon Beckhart**, **Wil Britten**, **Bob Morrow**, **Louise Tompkins**, and **Barbara Trought**. The MLRA membership year is from July 1 through June 30. Six residents whose two-year terms expire this June are **Harriet Bussey**, **George Rubin**, **Jean Stratton**, **Dave Swartz**, **Mary Toda**, and **Bob Anderson**. Bob was appointed to serve the last three months of **Jack Mutschler's** term after Jack was appointed to the Estaugh Board at its meeting on March 26.

## JACK MUTSCHLER APPOINTED TO ESTAUGH BOARD

by Kitty Katzell



photo by Margery Rubin

At its regular monthly meeting on March 26, the Estaugh Board approved the nomination of **Jack Mutschler** to serve on the Board, to comply with recent New Jersey legislation requiring that CCRC boards include a resident proposed by the residents' association.

The four residents already on the Board had not been proposed by MLRA.

Jack has been a resident on the Lumberton campus since August 1999. He is a licensed engineer with a degree in metallurgy from Temple University. Before retiring, he was VP of Operations for Hoeganaes Corporation and served on the board of the Metal Powders Industry Federation.

Since moving to Medford Leas, he has served on the Lumberton Residents Council and, until his appointment to the Estaugh Board, had been serving on the MLRA Council. He has also been co-chair of the MLRA Financial Review Committee. His term on the Council was to end on June 30, but he has resigned from both the Council and the Financial Review Committee, in accord with rules of MLRA and the Estaugh.

## WHAT'S NEW AT MLRA.ORG

**Lumberton St. Patrick's Party** – A slideshow.

**Display Case Exhibit of Toby Jugs** – A photo essay with words from the Display Case handout and 22 "mug shots" by photographer **Mike Carrell**.

## HIDDEN DYNAMO: THE EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

by Kay Cooley

Like the furnace of a building or the heart of a human, the Executive Assistant is a hidden source of energy that powers the executive function at Medford Leas. From her desk outside the CEO's office, she executes, coordinates, and supervises the many facets of executive support.

This position requires exceptional capability and performance. Among its duties are the accurate and timely completion of executive office work; the support of departments and department managers, Estaugh Board members, and resident representatives; maintaining corporate records; scheduling the use of meeting rooms; preparing the monthly and weekly calendars and minutes of board and staff meetings; assisting with the preparation of government surveys and reports and the Annual Disclosure Statement; and "other duties as assigned or as necessary."

The incumbent must demonstrate consistently "a positive approach to assignments"; reflect "a genuine caring, respect, sensitivity, patience and tolerance for others"; handle assignments that need "a great deal of tact, judgment, and understanding"; and create "an atmosphere of mutual acceptance, respect, and trust" in relations with others.



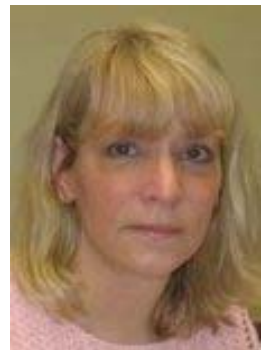
**Phyllis DiCianni** has spent almost 35 years as our Executive Assistant. She joined Medford Leas in October 1973, and for a long time was the sole secretary. She served as the Executive Assistant to four CEOs and supported six Estaugh Board Presidents. "Each had

his personality and way of doing things," she said. "It has been a challenging experience and a real pleasure." Phyllis could be, and was, counted on for anything. No matter what was asked of her and when, she met the request calmly and with the desire to help, then accomplished it on time

and to perfection. She could be considered Medford Leas' "national treasure."

Phyllis has been easing into retirement. For the past several months she has worked a three-day week as she introduced her successor, **Lori Jakelski**, to the culture of Medford Leas and the responsibilities of the position. Her official retirement was on April 9. However, she will be slipping into the executive office a little while longer to finish some projects. After that, she has promised to return for Employee Holiday Shows, Medford University, and other occasions.

Lori joined Medford Leas in August 2007. Before her arrival, she worked as Executive Assistant to the Chief of Police of Waterford Township, the CEO of Marlton Rehabilitation Hospital, and the CEO of RICOMM Systems, a small computer company. She and her husband live in Vincentown with their dogs, PJ and Lad. In her free time, Lori enjoys playing with the dogs and gardening. Her talent for interior decorating can be seen in the transformation she has created in the Executive Assistant's office. Lori is a welcome addition to the Medford Leas staff.



### MLRA SPRING TEA

**Carol Ferraro** and **Gini Mutschler** and their many volunteers invite residents of both campuses to enjoy the traditional Spring Tea, to be served on May 21 in the new Holly Room and the Activities Room, from 2:30 to 4:00 pm. Come out and meet new and old friends and savor the variety of tempting hot and cold hors d'oeuvres and sweet offerings, all to the music of our resident pianists. Please don't forget to wear your nametag.

## ELDERHOSTELERS LOVE US

by Ellen Stimler

After spending a *Day of Discovery* at Medford Leas, several Elderhostelers questioned about their experience were enthusiastic in their praise of the Medford Leas "instructors," the content of the lectures, and the ambience and environment of the community.

"I could move in tomorrow," declared Peg Bathmann of Ambler, PA, who attended with her husband. "I'm going to go home and practice some of the things we learned," said Dale Lonkart, who also came with her husband, George, from Northfield, NJ, near Atlantic City. After the end of the program, the couple met with **Fran Reynolds**, a new resident whom they knew from meetings at the Atlantic County Historical Society.

Mrs. Bathmann, a retired supervisor of a retirement facility, said she found the day's program "intellectually and socially stimulating." In her opinion it added credence to the idea that we can still learn and stretch our brains in ways we hadn't thought of. She said she will use this new knowledge "as an adjunct to what we already know about how to stay young." Commenting on the program leaders, she said **Dr. Quinton** was "marvelous, not condescending to computer illiterates, and very approachable during the question period." She liked **Gerry Stride's** presentation because Gerry communicated complex information in layman's language.

Mr. Lonkart's favorite program was the Wii game, but he also liked everything else. He is a retired mechanical contractor. His wife made a point of commenting on the "helpful, caring" staff. Although this couple exercises every day, eats healthy food, and does puzzles and brain-stimulating exercises already, they said the *Day of Discovery* gave them new ideas and "new directions to enhance our lifestyle."

The *Day of Discovery* on April 11 was the second of four identical programs presented by Medford Leas for the Elderhostel organization.

## NJ CCRCs MEET AT MEDFORD LEAS

by Helen L. Vukasin

There were 103 residents of Continuing Care Residential Communities from all over New Jersey gathered in the Theater and the new Arts and Social Wing on the Medford campus on April 16. It was the Spring meeting of ORANJ (Organization of Resident Associations of New Jersey), the umbrella group of New Jersey CCRCs.

The day's program focused on sustainability and climate change. Randy Solomon of the NJ Sustainable State Institute, Rutgers, told the group that sustainable development means meeting the needs of the present generation without compromising the expectations of future generations. Going green is only a part of meeting this goal.

He described the concept of the ecological footprint, which reveals that the average American uses 24 acres of land per day to provide for his/her needs.

In the afternoon, Mayor Fred Profeta of Maplewood, NJ, discussed the steps Maplewood has taken to become totally green. He also talked about the Green Mayors' Committee of the League of Municipalities that is reaching out to all municipalities in New Jersey with help and encouragement to start the process.

Those attending expressed delight with the new Arts and Social Wing over lunch in the Holly Room. Concurrently, in the Garden Room, 18 attendees particularly interested in conservation at their own CCRCs discussed possibilities with members of the Medford Leas Resource Conservation Committee.

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## IMPORTANT NOTICE

The phone number for the Health Center is 3427. If that number is busy, the system rolls over to 3428, then 3429. The number 3247 is a private apartment.

## ANNUAL MLRA PLANT SALE

by Dottie Heisler and Ellen Wiener

The annual spring plant sale will take place on Thursday morning, May 8, in the Estaugh Mall from 8:00 to noon. Residents and staff are encouraged to buy plants for their gardens and porches and to celebrate Mother's Day, the following Sunday, with flowers and plants bought at the sale.

The sale will offer a selection of hanging baskets, potted plants, and bedding plants. There is always a selection of herbs and tomato and pepper plants. Prices will be below retail. Profits from the plant sale will help pay for flowers in the public rooms on the Medford campus during the year. From the profits of the 2007 sale, a donation was made to the Appreciation Fund.

Residents using wheelchairs, scooters, or walkers may choose their plants the night before the start of the sale, on Wednesday, May 7, from 6:30 to 7:30 pm. All others should wait until 8:00 am Thursday.

The plant sale needs many volunteers. Residents willing to help with sales and arranging or delivering of purchases should call Dottie at 3625.

## MEDFORD LEAS "GPS" THE RESIDENT HANDBOOK

by Kay Cooley

What is the Friendly Table? Is there a policy on pets? The answer to these and innumerable other questions may be found in the Resident Handbook, a sort of Global Positioning System (GPS) for navigating life at Medford Leas.

Sometimes known as "the Residents' Bible," it has been put into the hands of new arrivals by Resident Services staff for many years. However, its present incarnation dates to 2001 and is seriously outdated, so MLRA President **Wil Britten** called for a new edition shortly after taking office in July 2007. He emphasized that it should be user friendly and inclusive of both campuses.

Under the able leadership of Council member **Barbara Trought**, a committee of dedicated residents began the eight-month project that same month. Representing different areas of the community, they brought variety in perspective as well as talent to the task. They are **Gwen Crawley** (recent arrival and Courts); **Ed House** (Bridlington); **Barbara Lewis** (Lumberton campus); **David Lewis** (formerly of Woolman Commons, now of the Courts); and **Betty Preston** (Rushmore). Collaborating with them at every turn of the page were senior staff. The Handbook is a true joint production.

The 2008 edition brings not only new content but also a new format to users. Housed in a white three-ring binder, it affords ultra flexibility and expandability. Its twelve chapters are flagged by tabs. A table of contents and an appendix make navigation easy. There is room to insert sheets like Fitness and Aquatics schedules and Dining Services notices. Floor plans and maps enable travel from here to there in minimal time. Updates of resident rosters will be available and insertable quarterly.

At the time this article was written, a date of distribution and a method of delivery had not been determined. A master copy awaits signing off by senior staff and, after that, the duplicating, collating, and assembly of individual copies. Its arrival will be another milestone in bringing community life up to date.

### ENERGY TIP OF THE MONTH

When residents donate clothing or household items to the Thrift Shop they CONSERVE the cost of producing and shipping new items. Other residents buy items and REUSE them, saving the gas needed to go to the store to shop. Unsold goods are RECYCLED to a local charity. Save time. Save money. Save the environment.

MLRA Resource Conservation Committee

**TODD BUTLER:**  
**Artist, Soldier, Survivor, Teacher**  
 by Maggie Woodard

Janet Sholl read an article in the *New York Times* in December 2007, about Rutgers University's Oral History Archives. Originating in 1994, it is a collection of more than 700 first-person accounts of New Jersey residents' service in military conflicts from World War II to the Gulf War. The archive conducts more than 100 interviews a year. Janet had read **Todd Butler's** 172-page manuscript about his life and war experiences, and she suggested to Todd that he contact the archive. He filled out an easy five-page application form, sent in a copy of his book, as requested, and was soon interviewed by two university students, who came to his apartment and talked with him from 9 am to 2 pm. On March 29, he received four discs, a "rough record." Copies of the final edited discs will be sent to him; the edited discs will be kept in the Rutgers library and a transcript at [www.oralhistory.rutgers.edu](http://www.oralhistory.rutgers.edu).

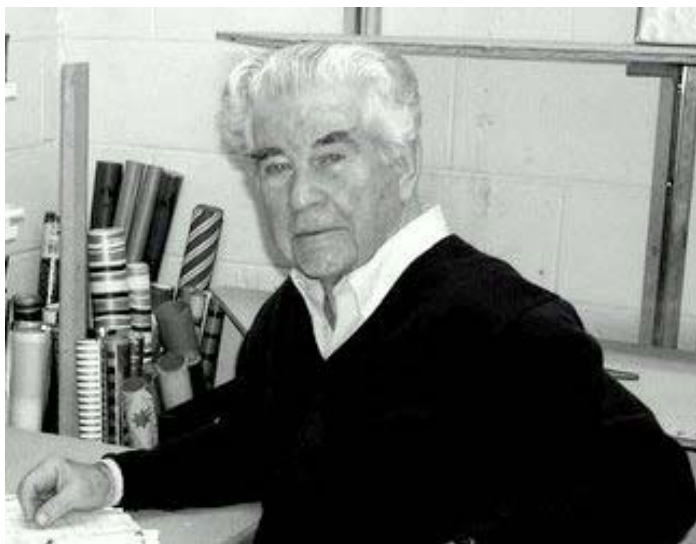


photo by Margery Rubin

Todd's book is fascinating reading. After he first came to Medford Leas, **Dr. Keith Quinton** suggested that he write out his memories. He thought that the writing might stop Todd's reliving his nightmarish combat experiences. It did help, and "put together the stories that had never been told."

Todd, now 90, served four and a half years in the Army. In 1938, he was in the first draft. Because he wanted to serve, he pleaded with the examining doctor to strike from his record his childhood rheumatic fever. He started out as a buck private in January 1940 and ended as a corporal tech. After landing in Normandy, his colonel asked him to gather those killed in battle, and this he did until the war's end in Germany. His unit replaced another unit in Cologne, Germany, and that company awarded him a Bronze Star for gathering their 400 dead. Although many in the Army felt they wouldn't survive, Todd never doubted that he would. "We were all of the generation that believed we owed our lives to our country." He served in North Africa, Sicily, England, Normandy Beach, and Germany.

Todd was born in Highland Park, MI. Apparently he was dyslexic, but he exhibited talent in art. After graduating from high school, he found a job and saved enough money to attend the Traphagen School of Design in New York City. Before he was drafted, he did window displays at Lord and Taylor. After the war, he used the GI Bill to take a three-year course at the Parsons School of Interior Architecture in New York City. He won a scholarship that enabled him to go on a European tour with his class and was exposed to the very best of the arts that the cities and museums could offer.

Back in New York, he worked for a decorating business before starting an art school with a fellow student. At the suggestion of some of his students, he moved to Metuchen, NJ, to continue on his own. One student and her husband lent him money to buy a house to be his studio.

Todd ended his book with these words: "Each and every experience added a rich reward. I would not have wanted to have missed out on any part. Even the combat years I can't wish away - nor would I wish it on anyone else, either!"

Note: If anyone wishes to write up his or her war experiences for the Rutgers archive, Janet Sholl (3221) will provide a copy of the application form.

## TOO MANY CATALOGS?

by Kay Cooley

From last Halloween to Christmas, the pile of catalogs that stuffed Bob Wasson's wheeled mail cart and that he delivered to my door, only to be tossed into my catalog throwaway box, must have numbered over 100. Calling their 800-numbers to request deletion from their mailing lists did little to staunch the flow. What to do? **Gwen Crawley** came to the rescue when she mentioned *Catalog Choice* at the December MLRA meeting.

*Catalog Choice* is a sponsored project of the Ecology Center, a non-profit organization endorsed by the National Wildlife Federation and the Natural Resources Defense Council.

At no charge, enrollees may click on an extensive list of catalogs they do not wish to receive. Participants must supply their names, addresses, and, if available, customer numbers. The *Catalog Choice* team sends this information to the designated merchants with a "do not mail" request.

Enrollees may then access their list to monitor the results. The name of each catalog is color-coded to show its status:

processing -- the opt-out choice is being sent to a merchant;

confirmed -- the merchant has confirmed receiving the request and will comply with it;

unconfirmed -- the merchant hasn't yet confirmed compliance;

refused--the merchant has refused to comply.

In the last two cases, *Catalog Choice* continues to urge merchants to honor opt-out requests.

Enrollees have other choices, too. They may alter their list by adding or subtracting catalog names, report infractions of a merchant's agreement not to mail, and even sign up for new catalogs by receiving the merchant's web address for viewing the catalog online.

Over 700,000 people have used *Catalog Choice* to cancel over nine million catalogs.

*Catalog Choice* can be accessed at [www.catalogchoice.org](http://www.catalogchoice.org).

## ART GALLERY NEWS

by Helen L. Vukasin

*Scholars of the Spring* opened their exhibition with a stimulating presentation of their painting techniques. At the reception on April 13 in the Gallery, Norma Griffith, one of the group of nine painters who are presently showing their work in the Medford Leas Gallery, explained some of the cultural differences that are reflected in Chinese Brush Work. She spoke about the various kinds of paper and fabric on which they paint and the differences in the handling of brushes as compared with Western water color painting. The exhibition will be displayed through the month of May.

At the Community Center on the Lumberton campus there is a show of the photographs of resident **Hannah Wilson** and the paintings of resident **Vincent Piecyk**. Hannah has been active in helping to mount exhibits of photographic work in the Art Studio Gallery. She mounts enlarged views of landscapes from all over the world.

Vincent is a new resident on the Medford campus. He is showing his oils and watercolors and some recent work painted on the computer. The exhibit will be shown through the month of June.

Residents' art in the new Arts and Social Wing has been much appreciated by the many visitors in April. The show will continue through the summer. Photographs of some of the pictures in the exhibit are displayed on MLRA.org

### IN MEMORIAM

<b>Walter Zwarg</b>	<b>March 9</b>
<b>Eleanor Light</b>	<b>March 22</b>
<b>Edith Ellis</b>	<b>April 1</b>
<b>Jeanne Gallagher</b>	<b>April 1</b>
<b>Florence Brudon</b>	<b>April 12</b>
<b>Kenneth Cooper</b>	<b>April 23</b>

## DONATED TREASURES

by Maggie Woodard

**Marion Rich**, Apt. 472, recently donated more than 100 pieces of scrimshaw and other treasures, with the handsome cabinet displaying them, to Medford Leas. Her beautiful collection, located in the Lounge, is priceless. Most of the pieces were created in the 1800s, but there are also some modern ones. Marion and her late husband, Joe, thought about displaying the collection in a whaling museum, but they weren't sure the pieces would be kept together. It is her hope that people will enjoy looking at them here.



Scrimshaw is the “careful decoration and carving of shells, bone, ivory, wood, etc., done especially by sailors on long voyages.”

Marion started her collection in 1970, when she and Joe were visiting Martha's Vineyard. While browsing in an antique store, she saw and bought what is her favorite piece, a snuff box which had been made out of a whale's tooth in 1832. It is located on the third shelf from the top of the cabinet. A whaling ship, its name, and the date are drawn on the tooth. A brass piece at the open end encloses the tooth for the storage of snuff.

Marion read and collected books about scrimshaw, some of which she donated to the Medford Leas Library. She attended auctions offering scrimshaw and became known by auctioneers. She often made absentee bids after the dealers sent her pictures and an estimate of an item to be sold.

Marion's enormous collection was delivered to **Todd Butler** in boxes when she moved from her Rushmore apartment to Haddon. Todd spent hours deciding how to arrange the pieces in the display case and did his usual masterful job. He noted what he considered some especially choice pieces.

1. A very small wooden box containing ivory dominoes.
2. A small box with a sliding lid that contains ivory dice, as small as dried peas!
3. Studs for a lady's fine dress or cufflinks, with very tiny ivory hands.
4. Various metal tools and needles used by sailors to hem the ship's sails by hand. The needles were also used to make scrimshaw on those long voyages at sea.
5. An ivory-handled rocker blade for chopping nuts and other food.

Todd also suggested looking at a model of *Old Ironsides*, built by **Jim Eynon**, which is in a display case next to the Rich collection, and then finding the scrimshaw piece that has a drawing of that ship.

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## LUMBERTON CAMPUS POOL

by Bill LeConey

Even as the chill of early spring winds kept winter alive, residents awaited the opening of the pool at the Lumberton Campus and the Polar Bear Dip on Thursday, April 24. This was the fifth celebration of this thrilling if chilling event.

We look forward to another exciting year of one of the community's greatest assets. Water exercise classes will begin in early June, and the pool will be available daily to all Medford Leas residents, their families, and friends. All, especially new residents, should familiarize themselves with the pool rules and regulations. Because we do not have lifeguards, residents must be responsible for their own personal safety. Every pool user must sign the registry book kept under the canopy at



the entrance end of the pool. Guests must **always** be accompanied by their host resident or members of the Pool Committee may politely ask them to leave. Younger children must be watched closely and should be in the "hot tub" only with an adult. More energetic youngsters and adults are reminded that there is no diving or jumping into the pool. No one should swim alone! Newcomers should check out the emergency equipment, including the emergency button at the entrance end that dials directly to 911.

The fact that the Medford campus indoor pool will be open this summer (it was closed for renovation last year) should not deter Medford Campus residents from coming to the Lumberton pool for outdoor sun and fun. Everyone is always welcome.

## 2008 SEDER

by Kitty Katzell

The new Holly Room was a perfect setting for the 2008 Seder on April 19. The views of woodlands from windows on three sides of the room added to its ambience. The 51 residents who attended were seated at tables for six or seven, each table with its own Seder plate filled with the items appropriate to the ritual, and each place setting with its own hard-boiled egg for consumption during the ceremony.

**Ernest Kaufman** led the Seder, assisted by readers **Sandy Green**, Director of Development, **Philetta Lobo**, **Phyllis Orta**, **Charlotte Peck**, **George Spivack**, and **Loretta Strassler**. **Liesel Marcus** provided the candelabra and candles that graced the head table and checked in those attending. The Haggadah for the service was one that had been prepared by **Charles Brownfield**.

As part of the Seder, the youngest person present must find a hidden piece of matzoh. **Dennis Koza**, CEO, was identified as the youngest person present and Sandy Green took care of hiding the matzoh. The meal started with gefilte fish, followed by matzoh ball soup. The main course was lamb, with gravy and mint jelly, a

spinach kugel, and carrots. Dessert was a fruit compote served with matzoh kugel made by **Mina Kaufman**, and cake made by **Sandy Green** and **Ellen Wiener**, along with macaroons, and Passover candies.

When the meal was finished, it was time for the closing part of the service, during which the hidden matzoh must be found. **Ernest Kaufman** offered a \$5 reward to Dennis if he found it, and when he did, Dennis handed over the \$5 to Sandy Green.



## DEADLINES FOR VOTING

**Janet Sholl**, of the MLRA Citizens Committee, has compiled a list of the important dates fixed by the Burlington County Board of Elections for actions that must be taken by residents who have had any kind of change in their voting eligibility since the last election. This includes changes of apartments within Medford Leas.

**May 13** – Last day to register or change voting address for non-presidential primary elections.

**June 3** – State and local Primary Election Day.

**October 14** – Last day to register or change voting address for November election.

**October 28** – **Deadline** for receipt by County Clerk of mailed application for absentee ballot for November election.

Janet has some of the forms needed and can give information on where to file or register (3221).

## GUESS WHO?

**John Brzostoski**, one of our artists, created this drawing of one of our residents (who agreed to it). If you can guess the resident's name, put a piece of paper with your solution on the *Medford Leas Life* shelf in the Atrium. Names of those with the correct answer will be published in our June issue, along with the identity of the resident. Call John (3157) if you want to be our mystery resident in future issues.



## WELCOME TO THE COURTS

On the urging of her family, **Dorothy (Dot) Hull**, now 94 years old, moved from her Rushmore home to Court Apartment 418. At Rushmore, she was in one of the four units overlooking the woods in the back but separate from the main complex. She misses that view but is pleased that access to the red walking trail through the woods is just across the road from her new place.

Dot's son-in-law Bill Keily came from Maine to assist in her move. The death of her daughter

from cancer two years ago was a bitter blow but she retains a close relationship with Bill. Dot's son Bob is a devoted sailor and is presently on a voyage to Bermuda. She has four grandchildren, all married, and eight great-grands.



photo by Margery Rubin

Aside from walking, Dot plays her piano for her own enjoyment and also takes a turn at playing for Vespers. She loves to read books about outdoor adventures. This past season, she had subscriptions to the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Opera, and the Wilma Theater.

Dot is aware of the many new opportunities open to her in her new home and she wants to start participating in some of the activities as soon as she gets completely "organized."

E.S.

## RESIDENT IN THE NEWS

**Kit Ellenbogen**, an attorney who has worked as a child advocate most of her professional life, has recently volunteered to participate in the CASA child advocacy program in Burlington County, according to an article in *The Medford Sun* (April 2-8, p. 5). CASA is an acronym for Court Appointed Special Advocates. It is a national, non-profit organization that trains and assigns volunteers to represent children in foster care or group homes.

On March 28, new volunteers were sworn in as advocates in the Burlington County program. CASA, which is now statewide, was singled out by Governor Corzine for its "significant contributions throughout New Jersey."

Kit told the newspaper reporter that she knows from her experience that the kind of children they are assigned "need one dependable, consistent person whom they could turn to and who would be there no matter what."

## OUR FAVORITE PLACES

by Ellen Stimler

Over the years of our lives, most of us have lived in many states and towns, traveled in the United States and abroad, spent time on lakes and beaches, perhaps camped in wilderness areas, and found peace or excitement in some special place.

Thinking back over all these places in your life, was there a very special one, a favorite? When you create it in your mind's eye, it appears like a lost picture, and you experience the feelings of pleasure, serenity, contentment, and well-being you had in that place. Or the place might be associated with something new and exciting, where you first met someone important in your life, learned a new skill, or had some transforming experience.

*Medford Leas Life* would like to collect brief stories about favorite places and work them into an article in a forthcoming issue. Tell us about your favorite place and put your contribution on the *Medford Leas Life* shelf to the left of the Atrium mailboxes.

My favorite place was on our sailboat, *The Two Of Us*, a small 14-foot sloop. When the wind was pushing us from behind and we were "running," we would sit quietly and just watch the water and the sky. It was almost like meditation, because we could lose track of all worldly cares and be engulfed by a feeling that human life was very meaningful and full of all the possibilities one could imagine. On the other hand, when we had to sail into the wind, tacking from side to side, we were challenged to the maximum of strength and dexterity, for any mistake might throw us into the water.

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## WHO'S NEW

In **Howard (Pete) Peterson's** Apartment 257, the walls in his two rooms are covered by very large, abstract paintings of vivid colors and shapes. They are the creations of his late wife Margery

who passed away suddenly in November 2007. "This is my therapy," Howard says, glancing around his museum-like new home, which displays artifacts and treasures acquired by the couple during their 62-year marriage.

Howard grew up in Michigan and earned an undergraduate degree in chemical engineering from the University of Michigan and a PhD in the same field from Iowa State University.

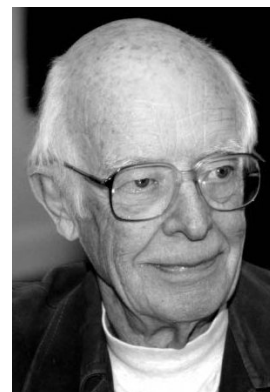


photo by Margery Rubin

Pete spent his WWII years in the Signal Corps. He met Margery while he was taking an Army training course at Grinnell College, where Margery was majoring in economics. They were married in 1946 after Margery's graduation

Pete's professional career was in the petroleum and zinc industries, working in research and development for companies in northern New Jersey and Palmerton, PA. When he took his last job with Gulf and Western Natural Resources Group, the family moved to a log cabin in Medford Lakes.

Margery was a homemaker while their three children were growing up. Once the children were on their own, she took art classes at Moravian College and set up a studio in her home. Over the years, Margery won numerous awards and was a member of two co-op galleries in Philadelphia.

Pete's job involved travel to Europe, Thailand, China, and Australia, and Margery sometimes went along. The family also traveled for pleasure to places such as Belize and Honduras.

One of Pete's two sons will be moving into his father's Medford Lakes home. His other son lives in San Diego, and his daughter in Madison, WI. He has five grandchildren and two great-grands.

by Ellen Stimler



**MAY CRYPTOGRAM**

by Betty Donahue

HCKKGTHGKGTV      QJGGHZGQ

RGWG      BTPGTVGY      BT      VZG

SGUBGL      VZMV      HCUUGDG

QVfyGTVQ      QZCFUY      TGPGW

SG      WGUGMQGY      BTVC      VZG

RCWUY      FTVBU      VZGX      ZMPG

SGGT      JWCJGWUX      QGYMVGy.

– DMWWX VWFYGMF

Here is the solution to the April cryptogram by Kitty Katzell.

THOUGH ONLY GOD CAN MAKE A TREE,  
MONEY CAN MOVE THEM WHERE THEY'LL  
BE A DAILY INSPIRATION TO NEW YORKERS  
ON FIFTH AVENUE. –MARGARET FISHBACK

The correct solution was received from 34 readers: **Ken Anderson, Miriam Angle, Mary Barth, Ruth Blattenberger, Marion Burk, Jody Cardona, John Caughey, Gwen Crawley, Anne Cree, Alice Culbreth, Doris Curley, Liz Dill, Betty Donahue, Louise Evaul, Mary Fenimore, Alan Gaylord, Mickey Gray, Bob Hambleton, Herb Heineman, Barbara Heizman, Eleanor Horner, Hugh Jenkins, Sally Klos, Mary Mason, Alice Norcross, Helen Peterson, Betty Preston, Warren Reeves, Doris Salati, Florence Sawyer, Peg Scott, Miriam Ward, Ellen Wiener, Gladys Wynkoop.**

Please put your solution **in an envelope** in Box 116 by May 10 or send it by email to [estimler@medleas.com](mailto:estimler@medleas.com). Always happy to get new, interesting cryptograms.

**MEDFORD LEAS LIFE**

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